

THE DESOTO COUNTY NEWS.

VOLUME VIII.

ARCADIA, FLORIDA, FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1906.

NUMBER 47.

DEATH WARRANT FOR COOPER ISSUED THIRD TIME

GVERNOR BROWARD FIXED FEBRUARY 23.

Day For Execution—A History of the Crime—Cowardly and Brutal—Cooper Has Twice Before Heard His Doom Pronounced—Looks as Though all Chance Was Gone

sitting on his knee. The murderer fired from the outside the house and, from the time of the murder, every clue that has been discovered and followed, every fact that has been adduced, pointed unerringly to Isaiah E. Cooper as the guilty man. The evidence was circumstantial but so strong as to make an absolute case of guilt. He was convicted at a special term of circuit court, held in Arcadia, called by Judge Wall, March, 1903. The only evidence that favored Cooper, given at the trial, or ever given before a court of law since was that of a woman with whom he had been living, who testified that he was at her home when the shot was fired.

Slate's Attorney H. S. Phillips has represented the state throughout the various hearings and appeals of Cooper. His first attorney, M. L. Williams, was debarred for "doctoring" the records of the case, and forging the signature of Judge Wall thereto. He has, since Williams' disbarment, been represented by J. W. Brady, who has done everything in his power in the condemned man's behalf, going so far as to prosecute two other citizens of Punta Gorda before a committal magistrate for the same offense, the hearing resulting in a flat failure to adduce anything favorable to Cooper or implicating the other men.

One appeal to the supreme court, three appeals to the pardoning board, a scouring of the country for something in favor of the accused, the strongest "pulls" possible to influential citizens and politicians, all have been exhausted in behalf of Cooper. He has had every possible chance to escape the law, but it now seems that he will pay the penalty of his brutal and cowardly crime on February 23.

BOWLING GREEN.

Bowling Green is on the boom. The farmer is up early and late preparing the soil, and sowing his seed for harvest.

Messrs. John and Hosie Albritton are building a two-story edifice on Main street. Mr. Hosie will move his cold drink stand into the new store when completed.

Jones Bros. are building an up-to-date concrete edifice on Main street—the first floor to be used for a store and the second story for hotel purposes. The building will be a credit to Bowling Green.

Misses Daisy and Mittie Harward, Mr. Guy Harward and Mr. DePass were visiting in Bowling Green Monday night of this week.

The first quarterly conference for Bowling Green circuit will be held here Saturday and Sunday, the 13th and 14th insts. Rev. J. W. Bigham, presiding elder, of Bartow, will hold conference Saturday and we anticipate a big crowd.

Bowling Green is a charming place to live in. Nature's heart will soon be bursting with beauty, and the blossom of rose and orange will be a thing of beauty if not a joy forever, to the native as well as the passer by.

The Bowling Green Literary school opened with bright prospects. Scholars enrolled approximate 115. Mr. A. A. Price is the principal, with Miss Grace Stephens first assistant.

We regret to chronicle the untimely death of Mr. J. J. Parker a prominent young farmer residing in the Pisgah community. The remains were lovingly laid away in the cemetery Sunday afternoon, witnessed by a large concourse of sorrowing relatives and friends.

Rev. D. Lee Switzer, assisted by Rev. R. T. Higgs, officiated. The deceased leaves a young wife and three little children to mourn his loss.

Marriage License.

The county judge issued marriage licenses to the following couples this week:

Charley Crawford and Jessie Hagan; Howell Morton Hampton and Annie Laurie Carlton; John Williams and Emma Maxton.

Reading Notice.

Special standard fertilizers for oranges, melons, cukes, beans and all other crops. Apply to James P. DePass.

THE REVENUES

From Saloon Licenses in Nine Large Cities of the United States.

Pittsburg, Pa., receives \$496,000 from its saloons and pay \$634,000 for the maintenance of its police.

New Orleans, La., receives \$151,500 from the saloons, and pays \$231,374 for the support of its police.

Cincinnati, Ohio, receives \$417,647 from its saloons and pays \$603,210 towards the Dow fund for providing against evils resulting from the liquor traffic.

St. Louis, Mo., receives \$1,051,969 from its saloons and pays \$1,602,182 for the support of its police force.

Boston, Mass., receives \$1,438,132 from its saloons and pays \$12,030,500 for the support of its police force.

New York city receives \$7,991,865 from saloons and pays \$12,030,500 for the support of its police force.

Chicago receives \$3,213,298 from saloons and pays \$3,685,982 for the support of its police force.

Washington, D. C., receives \$415,985 from its saloons and pay \$814,245 for the support of its police.

Cleveland, Ohio, receives \$525,000 Dow tax and pays \$513,000 towards providing against evils resulting from the Dow-taxed saloons.

NOCATEE.

One of the largest deals in South Florida business circles has just been closed. Maj. Welles, our hustling lumberman, sold his saw mill, veneering mill, about 60,000 acres of timber land northwest of Peace river, and large store house, to Page & McKethan of Jacksonville. This is one of the best plants in Florida. The sum involved was \$250,000.

The Law and Order league held its regular meeting Tuesday night. Dr. DePass, pastor of the Methodist church of Arcadia, who was expected to deliver an address, was unable to be present, and short interesting addresses were made by a number of our citizens.

School opened last Tuesday with a large attendance and a number of new pupils on the roll.

Miss Ethel Sharman, teacher in the intermediate department of our school, spent the holidays with her parents at Hawthorne, in Alachua county.

Mr. A. A. Pelton and daughters of Lake Helena, have moved into our town and are occupying the Yelvington Hotel building.

We regret to announce that our beloved pastor, M. S. Stevens, of the Baptist church, has resigned his charge here. Bro. Stevens has done a great work here, is a gentleman of culture and deep spirituality, and we regret very much to see him go.

Rev. Bigham, presiding elder of the Methodist church for this district, filled the pulpit at the Methodist church Sunday.

Messrs. Page & McKethan of Jacksonville, are expected today to take charge of their new lumber plant.

Miss Nellie Thomas entertained delightfully a number of her young friends on Monday evening. Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Walker and Miss Sharman assisted.

Mr. Levi McCullers and wife, of Orlando, are visiting friends in town this week.

Trucking has proved very profitable in this section and quantities of vegetables are being shipped daily.

Mr. A. B. Stroud has recently purchased from Mr. Hazel Yelvington, his dwelling located just south of the school building, and moved into it. Mr. H. Yelvington has gone to Arcadia to reside.

Miss Hollingsworth of Brownville, is visiting her sister Mrs. N. G. Welles, this week.

On Wednesday evening, Miss Tydings, missionary to Mexico, delivered an interesting address at the Methodist church.

Dr. Barnett, of Arcadia, was in town Wednesday evening.

Next Tuesday night, Jan. 16th, there will be an entertainment in the school house given by the pupils of Miss Collins, Miss Collins and other local talent assisting. Admission, 25c.

Mr. Horace Carlton, of Arcadia, spent Sunday in town.

Cabbage Plants.

Charleston Wakefield variety Fine field grown plants, \$1.50 per 1000 f. o. b. Nocatee, 40c per 100 postpaid. Forsale by

J. W. FREEMAN, Nocatee, Fla.

WILL SOON HAVE IT.

City Bonds Will Be Here Ere Very Long.

Arcadia will soon have money to burn. The bonds have been printed and the bond trustees are looking for them every day. As soon as they are signed and returned the \$30,000 will be available. The new school building should receive the first consideration of the trustees, and in this connection we would suggest to the bond trustees that they do not use sand lime brick in any part of the building. It is a failure as a satisfactory building material.

Lecture Monday Night.

On Monday, January 15, at 7 o'clock B. M. Spellman, one of the secretaries of the Baptist Sunday School Board, will lecture in the Baptist church, his subject will be "Sunday School work and the best methods for carrying it on."

The Sunday school workers of Arcadia, and adjoining towns, of every denomination, are cordially invited to attend. The lecture is free.

Mr. Spellman has the reputation of being one of the best Sunday school workers and speakers in the south, and everybody in the city should go to hear him.

GARDNER.

We are having cool weather at the present.

Messrs. Royal & Philips' turpentine still arrived here the first of the week.

The orange packing business has started up after a few weeks vacation.

Mr. Geo. McGlocklen has been seriously ill for the past few days, but is improving now. His mother and two brothers are with him. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Nannie Newton is visiting Mrs. James Worth this week.

Miss Mamie Parks was visiting her sister Miss Carrie, Sunday.

Miss Olivette Boggers was shopping in Arcadia Friday.

A box party was given at the home of Mrs. Dan Coker last Saturday night, for the benefit of the church. Every one present reports a pleasant time.

Mrs. F. E. Fielder was visiting her mother the last of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Coker went to Ft. Meade last Sunday.

Mrs. Nellie Hampton has moved to her place a few miles out of town. We regret very much to see Mrs. Hampton leave.

Mrs. Peter Stone of Volusia county, is visiting her sons Bill and Peter of this place.

Mr. Keat Albritton and wife, of Lakeland, spent Sunday in Gardner. Clara Albritton spent Sunday in town, visiting relatives.

Donie Altman has returned home after spending a few months at Torrey.

Jesse Worth went to Wauchula Sunday, returning Monday.

Bob Roberts spent last week at Lily with his parents.

Joe Hampton of Arcadia spent Sunday at this place.

A. B. Royall returned Friday night after spending a few weeks in Georgia.

Investigating Concrete.

Fred S. Gore and David H. Scott, Arcadia, who spent yesterday in the city, are two of the most enterprising and successful business men of Desoto county's metropolis. The gentlemen are partners in the mercantile business, and their store was destroyed by the recent fire. The purpose of their visit to Tampa was to investigate the merits of concrete as a building material. They were very favorably impressed with the several concrete buildings they saw here and will probably build a two-story building of this material fronting fifty feet on Oak avenue in their town.—Tampa Times.

County Judge's Court.

The following cases were tried in county judge's court this week:

J. B. Benton, selling whisky, bound over to circuit court, bond \$300.

Dave Roe, J. M. Sullivan and James Garvin, assault and battery, guilty, \$10 and costs each.

Paul Thomas, assault and battery, guilty, \$5 and costs.

LARGE INVESTMENTS ARE NOW BEING MADE DAILY

ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

On Tuesday night, Jan. 16, Dr. D. B. Gray, of Atlanta, Ga., will speak in the Baptist church. The people of Arcadia should not miss this opportunity to hear Dr. Gray, he is one of the finest speakers in the south. He will not only entertain you most royally but will give you good and wholesome instructions and information. Hear him.

We are glad to learn that Rev. W. D. Turnley arrived safely in Dade City and is pleasantly located in his work there, having had a fine day last Sunday.

If the property owners in the burned district will clear all the old rubbish off their lots it will add a great deal to the appearance of the city. As they now are, they do not present a very inviting appearance to the visitor or those passing through on the cars. Gentlemen show your pride and the interest you have in the city by cleaning up. Who will be the first?

Finis Hooker, after a pleasant visit of two weeks with his parents, left Wednesday for Asheville, N. C., where he is a student in Bingham College.

Now is the time to plant shade trees, every property owner in Arcadia should plant willow leaf water oaks around their property, to encourage the planting of trees the city council passed an ordinance providing for the payment for all trees of a certain size if planted during the months of November, December, January and February. Every citizen who has not already done so should take advantage of this opportunity and plant shade trees.

Ready made children and ladies clothing and a line of Christmas goods at Mrs. F. W. Ring's, next to Faircloth's, on Oak street.

Kline O. Varn, the hustling representative of the Mape's Fertilizer Co., is in the city this week booking orders for his goods.

The many friends of Wm. King, the accommodating chairman of the board of county commissioners, are glad to learn that he has so far recovered from the injuries received that he is able to be up, and trust that his further recovery will be speedy and complete.

Married at the residence of the bride's father, H. E. Carlton, on last Wednesday evening at 3 o'clock, H. M. Hampton and Miss Annie Laurie Carlton. It was a very quiet wedding, none but the immediate family being present. The happy couple left on the afternoon train for Ocala, where they will make their future home.

Don't forget all of our old groceries got burned up and everything we have in this line is new and fresh. Gore & Scott.

County Judge Cochran is a success as an auctioneer, on last Thursday he sold three mules about the size of Texas Jack Rabbits for \$300.

Mrs. E. A. Mahon, who has been spending some time with her daughter, Mrs. J. A. Hendon, returned to her home in Jacksonville Saturday.

The old reliable Wilson & Toomer orange tree, vegetable and potato fertilizers at Dishong Bros.

Doing a Good Business.

The banking institution of Simmons, Langford & Co. begin the new year with the largest volume of business since their opening three years ago. They have long since passed the \$100,000 mark, and made the largest net earnings in proportion to their capital stock of any bank in the state of Florida during the year of 1905. This bank not being incorporated, and having over \$150,000 behind it makes it absolutely safe to every depositor. They solicit your business during the year. They are accommodating people.

Arcadia Enterprise.

Arcadia is certainly hustling. One firm that was burned out Thanksgiving Day is now located in its new store, which has been completed in less than thirty days.—Leesburg Commercial.

ANOTHER BIG DEAL IS CONSUMMATED.

Property at Punta Gorda Changes Hands—Consideration, \$65,000—Peace River Phosphate and Mining Company the Purchasers—Company Save Much Money by the Acquisition.

Deals involving from \$50,000 to \$100,000 are of such frequent occurrence that unless one keeps a sharp lookout they are liable to miss one or two each week. DeSoto county has placed to her credit another large deal. Last week the Peace River Phosphate Mining Company purchased from Albert F. Dewey of Punta Gorda, his entire stevedore and lighterage outfit business, consisting of steamers, lighters, tug, boats of every description and ways at Cleveland; consideration, \$65,000.

For years Mr. Dewey has been handling the entire output of rock from the Peace River Phosphate Mining Company's plants, taking it at Liverpool and delivering it on board the boats at Boca Grande. The building of the new railroad from Boca Grande, which will run by the plants of the phosphate company, does away with the necessity of handling the rock from Liverpool and will be a great saving to the phosphate company.

Real Estate Transfers.

Wm. Horn and wife to A. R. Brooks, w d, \$500.

Wm. Horn to A. R. Brooks, w d, \$500.

W. W. Pogue to J. H. Berry, mtg, \$225.

W. J. Williams to J. H. Berry, mtg, \$150.

A. Teachy to W. W. Pogue, Jr., w d, \$100.

W. W. Bateman to W. W. Pogue, Jr., w d, \$140.

A. W. Gilchrist to Mox Wild, w d, \$150.

Perry W. McAdon to Ella G. Lamar, s of m, \$8,000.

J. C. Lott to J. M. Farabee, lien, \$70.

M. F. Giddens to S. E. Giddens, deed, \$25.

E. Higginbotham to J. H. Jones, w d, \$5,000.

J. R. Lightsey and wife to Gabe Gill, mtg, \$500.

A. B. Brooks to J. R. Lightsey, w d, \$770.

L. R. Wright to W. G. Welles, w d, \$150.

Wright & Gilchrist to G. Gill, w d, \$55.

L. F. Faroby to Sweat Bros, lease, \$100.

Florida King et al. to C. C. Morgan, deed, \$200.

Board of County Commissioners to J. S. Altman, p p, —.

T. J. Watkins to J. W. Freeman, w d, \$100.

T. A. Stephens to John L. Martin, w d, \$300.

J. W. Hopson to G. Dixon, w d, \$30.

B. L. Adams to S. J. Johns, mtg, \$35.

H. L. Carlton to W. D. Welles, w d, \$3,500.

W. A. Brown to Joseph H. Brown, w d, \$75.

H. D. Farabee to W. A. Brown, w d, \$75.

T. J. Watkins to E. A. Thomas, deed, \$7,500.

E. A. Thomas to T. J. Watkins, mtg, \$5,600.

J. M. Beeson to A. F. Young & Co., w d, \$1,290.

Dodson Printers' Supply Co. to F. E. & R. B. Child, contract, \$1,113.75.

Ed Green to A. Branning, w d, \$50.

A. Branning to W. E. Robertson, w d, \$1.

J. L. Bryan to J. W. Rainey et al., w d, \$1,600.

Sam Horn to J. A. Hendry, w d, \$225.

H. M. Craft to S. J. Simmons, w d, \$1.

S. L. Swindle to S. J. Simmons, w d, \$1.

F. C. Loehr to A. F. Mitchell, w d, \$100.

A. F. Mitchell to A. C. King, w d, \$225.

M. Shephard to Isaac Boosberg, w d, \$400.

from Tampa Tribune.

Marshall J. H. Bowman, Punta Gorda, murdered January 29, 1903, Cooper convicted of the crime, March, 1903.

Appealed to supreme court fails. First appeal to board of pardons denied.

First death warrant issued August, 1904.

First reprieve, by Governor Jennings, August, 1904.

Arrest of other persons accused of crime, resulting in failure to prove anything against them.

Second appeal to board of pardons denied.

Second death warrant issued, by Governor Broward, fixing date of execution, September 1, 1905.

Second reprieve, by Governor Broward, Sept. 1, 1905.

Governor Broward conducts thorough investigation of case.

Third appeal to board of pardons denied.

Third death warrant issued by Gov. Broward yesterday.

Third date for execution fixed, February 23, 1906.

Tallahassee, Jan. 9.—Governor Broward today issued a death warrant for the execution of Isaiah E. Cooper, convicted in March, 1903, of the murder of Marshal J. H. Bowman, of Punta Gorda, which crime was committed January 29, 1903.

The new death warrant fixes the date of execution as February 23.

This is the third death warrant issued for Cooper, in both of the preceding cases, the execution having been stayed, within a few hours of the time for its execution, the first time by Governor Jennings, in August, 1904, and the second by Governor Broward, September 1, 1905.

THIS MAY BE FINAL.

It is believed that the present death warrant will stand and that Governor Broward will not be further swayed by the interested friends of Cooper in their efforts to set aside the judgment of the law.

It is known that matters of a highly sensational nature were reported to Governor Broward just on the eve of the last date fixed for the execution of the murderer, September 1, last year, which caused him to revoke the death warrant at that time issued and to determine to make a most searching investigation of the alleged new facts claimed to have been discovered before taking further action in the case.

It is also reported that the governor went so far as to employ one of the best detectives in the country to conduct an investigation, which resulted in further fastening the guilt for the murder of Bowman upon the man now under sentence of death therefor.

NOT EASILY MOVED.

It is known that Governor Broward is a man not easily moved and it may be taken for granted that, having taken this action after such an investigation, no one will be powerful enough or influential enough to cause him to again rescind the death warrant.

Some of the most influential men in DeSoto county have been interested in Cooper's behalf, with what special motive has not been disclosed. It may be that, when Cooper goes to the gallows, seeing no further chance of escaping the law, that he will make statements which may throw light on many peculiar things that have developed in connection with the murder of the town marshal of Punta Gorda.

BRUTAL COWARDLY MURDER.

Town Marshal J. H. Bowman, of Punta Gorda, was shot and killed on the night of January 29, while sitting in his home, with his two children